

Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

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1. (Currently Amended) A method of copying ~~which avoids the bit by bit duplication of~~ digital data ~~[[arising]]~~ from a source of digital data ~~[[on]]~~ onto a medium, ~~wherein said method comprises a step of~~ comprising the steps of:  
formatting the digital data ~~[[arising]]~~ from said source of digital data ~~[[as]]~~ using a function ~~[[of]]~~ based on at least a serial number contained in said medium, to thereby prevent bit by bit duplication of the digital data onto said medium; and ~~a step of writing~~ recording said formatted data onto said medium.
2. (Currently Amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein the serial number is recorded ~~in an unfalsifiable manner~~ on the medium during ~~[[its]]~~ manufacture of the medium.
3. (Currently Amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein the serial number is a unique number for each medium ~~or exhibits a low probability of being common to two media~~.
4. (Currently Amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein the step of formatting ~~[[of]]~~ the digital data to be duplicated is carried out using a secret-key encryption algorithm ~~such as DES~~ or a public-key algorithm ~~such as RSA~~.
5. (Currently Amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 4, wherein the encryption algorithm uses an encryption key that is dependent on the serial number.
6. (Currently Amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 5, wherein the encryption key is furthermore dependent on a secret parameter contained in ~~[[any]]~~ a reading device adapted for reading the digital data arising from said source.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of copying ~~which avoids the bit by bit duplication of digital data read by a reading device and copied~~ onto a medium, wherein the medium comprises a serial number ~~and in that the method of copying comprises~~ comprising the following steps:

sending ~~[[of]]~~ the serial number recorded on the medium to ~~[[the]]~~ a reading device~~[[,]]~~;

formatting ~~[[of]]~~ the digital data read with the aid of the serial number, to thereby prevent bit by bit duplication of the digital data onto the medium; and

recording on said medium ~~[[of]]~~ the formatted digital data.

8. (Currently Amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 7, wherein the formatting step is carried out in the reading device.

9. (Currently Amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 7, wherein the reading device comprises means ~~making it possible to read~~ for reading the medium containing the formatted digital data.

10. (Currently Amended) The method ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 7, ~~wherein~~ before performing the duplication of the digital data, ~~it comprises~~ a step of checking authorization to copy.

11. (Currently Amended) A reading device allowing the implementation of a method of copying according to claim 1, wherein ~~[[it]]~~ the reading device comprises a formatting circuit adapted for receiving the serial number of the medium onto which the digital data are to be copied and providing as output, formatted data which are dependent on said serial number and are intended to be copied onto said medium.

12. (Currently Amended) A recording medium for digital data comprising a serial number which is unique ~~or exhibits a low probability of being common with that of another medium~~, wherein ~~[[it furthermore]]~~ the recording medium further comprises recorded digital data, ~~said digital data being~~ formatted as a function of said serial number and of a secret parameter.